(b) whether it is also a fact that the Post Master General has been apprised of this problem; and

(c) if. so, what steps are being taken by the Government to issue clear and unambiguous instructions to all post offices that money orders of any amount should not be refused?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, such instance has been brought to the notice of the Postmaster General, Andhra Pradesh Circle.

(c) All post offices are bound to issue money orders up to the maximum value of Rs. 2,000. Clear instructions to this effect already exist. Fraction of a rupee is, however, not allowed in money order.

Facilities *to* Public Telephone and Booth Owners

1875. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Public Telephone Booths operating in the country;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from public telephone and booth owners regarding more facilities; and

(c) if so, what are the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 2/73 lakhs public telephones, including Panchayat phones, as on 30-6-93.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Some representations mainly for enhancement of the commission, provision of incoming call facility, service charges etc. have been received. The incoming call facility has already been ordered to be restored in all public call offices (Both Local and STD) and commission revised as under as per the revised policy on STD PCOs:

Upto 10,000 calls — 20P/Callunit

V. 10,000 to 20,000 calls — 15P/Call unit.

Beyond 20,000 calls — 10P/ Call unit.

मध्य प्रदेश में टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों के लिए प्रतीक्षा सूची

1876 श्री राधा किशन मालवीय : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 30 जून 1993 की स्थिति के अनुसार मध्य प्रदेश में नए कनेक्शनों के लिए कुल कितने व्यक्तियों के नाम प्रतीक्षा सूची में दर्ज है और

(ख) प्रतीक्षा सूची में दर्ज सभी व्यक्तियों को कब तक टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दिए जाने की संभावना है ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) मध्य प्रदेश में 30-6-1993 की स्थिति के अनुसार नए टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों के लिए प्रतीक्षा रत व्यक्तियों की कुल संख्या 91,636 है ।

(ख) आठवीं योजना के उद्देश्यों बड़ी टेलीफोन प्रणालियों में प्रतीक्षा अवधि को घटा कर दो वर्ष करना तथा ग्रामीण जनजातीय क्षेत्रों में आठवीं योजना अवधि (1992-97) के अंत तक व्यावहारिक रूप से मांग होने पर टेलीफोन कनेक्शन प्रदान करना शामिल है । तदनुसार इन उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए एक्सचेंजों का विस्तार किया जा रहा है ।

Procedure followed in appointing the C.M.D. of MTNL

1877. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the norms and procedures followed by Government in the appointment of the present incumbent and his predecessor Chairman and Managing Director of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL).

(b) whether the norms, rules and procedures prescribed for the selection of Chief of PSUs were followed in the appointment made since 1986 as MTNL's CMDs;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and if not, what are the reason, therefor in respect of each case since 1986;

(d) whether the present incumbent who was due for retirement on 30th June, 1993 has since been retired or given extension of service;

(e) if he has been given extension what are the reasons therefor; and

(f) what steps Government have taken to see that the norms and procedures prescribed by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PSEB) are scrupulously followed in the selection and appointment of MTNL's CMDs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Both the previous incumbents to the post of Chairman & Managing Director of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) were appointed with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). The last incumbent retired on superannuation on 31-7-93 and a new CMD is yet to be appointed.

(b) and (c) The appointments of CMDs of PSUs are made with the approval of the ACC. Generally the incumbent is selected from a panel of names recommended by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB). For appointment of the last 2 CMDs in MTNL, it was considered appropriate to appoint senior telecom officers to the post on account of the special circumstances prevailing in the organisation.

(d) The previous CMD was due for retirement on superannuation on 31st July 1993 and not 30th June 1993. He has retired on the due date.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

(f) Steps will be taken to appoint C.M.D. of M.T.N.L, as per the norms & procedures prescribed by PESB.

संसद सदस्यों के स्थाई निवासों पर एस० टी० डी० सुविधा उपलब्ध कराया जाना

1876. **श्री शिव प्रसाद चनपुरिया :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन संसद सदस्यों के क्या-क्या नाम है जिन्हें दिल्ली में बाहर अपने स्थाई निवासों पर एस०टी०डी० सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं कराई गई हैं और

(ख) उन्हें यह सुविधा कब तक उपलब्ध करा दी जायेगी ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुख राम): (क) और (ख) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और इसे सभा-पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

Release of Commemorative Stamps on the Eve of Golden Jubilee Celebrations

1879. SHRI SHIVPRASAD CHANPURIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to release a postal stamp in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of the 'Azad Hind Sarkar' which is going to be celebrated on the 21st August, 1993 by evaluating the invaluable contribution of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in raising the self respect of the country and achieving independence; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The Department had on 21-10-1968 issued a commemorative postage stamp on the establishment of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind to mark the 25th Anniversary of this historic event. It is now proposed to bring out a commemorative postage stamp on 21-10-1993 in connection with the Golden Jubilee of 'Azad Hind Fauj' (Indian National Army) formed by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.